

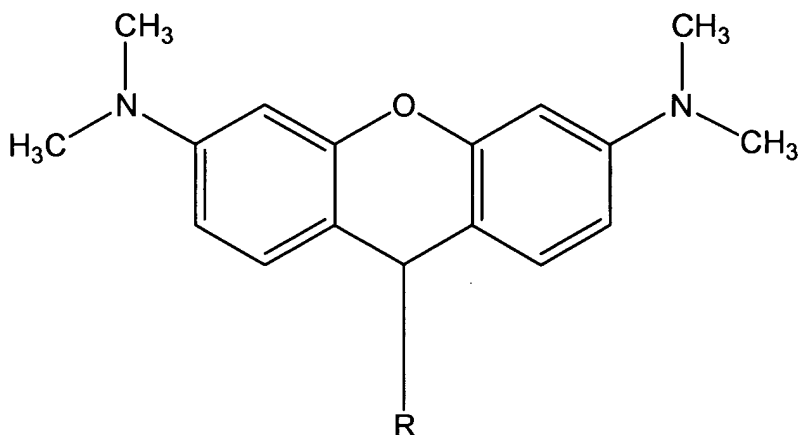
(Divisional of S.N. 10/096,075, filed March 12, 2002)

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287. (NEW) A labeling reagent comprising an aphenylic analog of a rhodamine dye, said analog comprising at least one reactive group for attaching said labeling reagent to a target, said at least one reactive group being attached directly to said analog or indirectly through a linker arm.

288. (NEW) The labeling reagent of claim 287, said reagent having the structure



wherein R is a reactive group for attaching said labeling reagent to a target, and
wherein R is attached directly or indirectly through an aphenylic linker arm.

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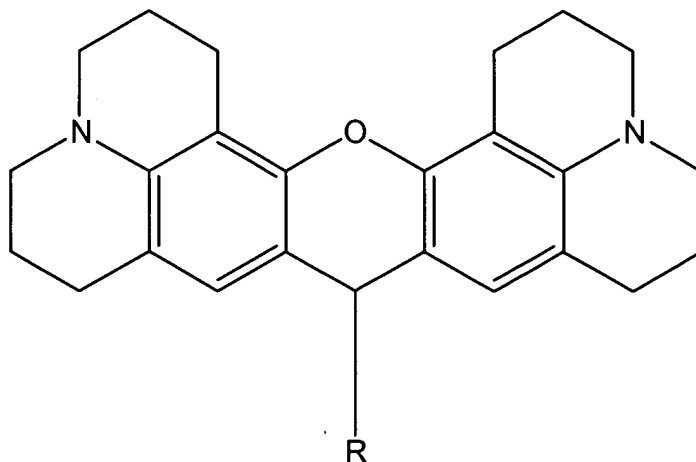
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289. (NEW) The labeling reagent of claim 287, said reagent having the structure



wherein R is a reactive group for attaching said labeling reagent to a target, and
wherein R is attached directly or indirectly through an aphenylic linker arm.

290. (NEW) The labeling reagent of claim 287, 288 or 289, wherein said reactive group comprises sulfhydryl, hydroxyl, amine, isothiocyanate, isocyanate, monochlorotriazine, dichlorotriazine, mono- or di-halogen substituted pyridine, mono- or di-halogen substituted diazine, maleimide, aziridine, sulfonylhalide, acid halide, hydroxysuccinimide ester, hydroxysulfosuccinimide ester, imidoester, hydrazine, azidonitrophenyl, azide, 3-(2-pyridyl dithio)-propionamide, glyoxal or aldehyde.

291. (NEW) The labeling reagent of claim 287, 288 or 289, wherein said reactive group is capable of forming a carbon-carbon linkage with a target.

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292. (NEW) The labeling reagent of claim 291, wherein said reactive group comprises an alkene group, an alkyne group, a halogenated compound or a metallo-organic compound.

293. (NEW) The labeling reagent of claim 292, wherein said metallo-organic compound comprises mercury, zinc, copper or platinum.

294. (NEW) The labeling reagent of claim 292, wherein said metallo-organic compound comprises an alkene group or an alkyne group.

295. (NEW) The labeling reagent of claim 287, wherein said aphenylic linker arm has a backbone comprising one or more carbon atoms.

296. (NEW) The labeling reagent of claim 287, wherein said aphenylic linker arm has a backbone comprising at least one non-carbon atom.

297. (NEW) A labeled nucleotide comprising an aphenylic analog of a rhodamine dye, wherein said dye is attached directly to said nucleotide or indirectly through a linker.

298. (NEW) The labeled nucleotide of claim 297, said labeled nucleotide having the structure:

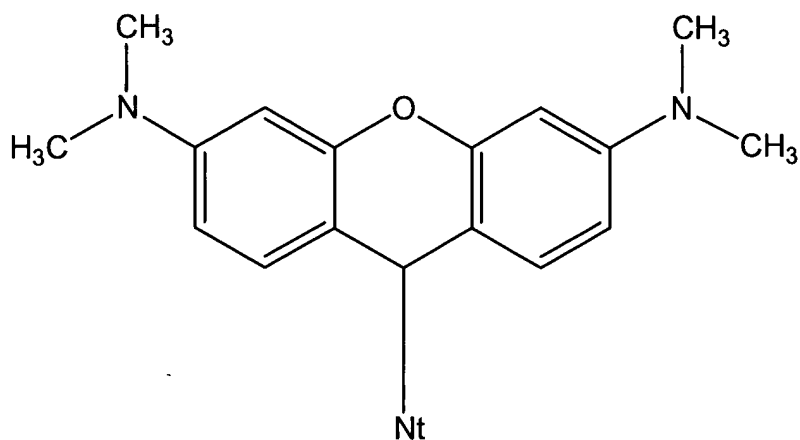
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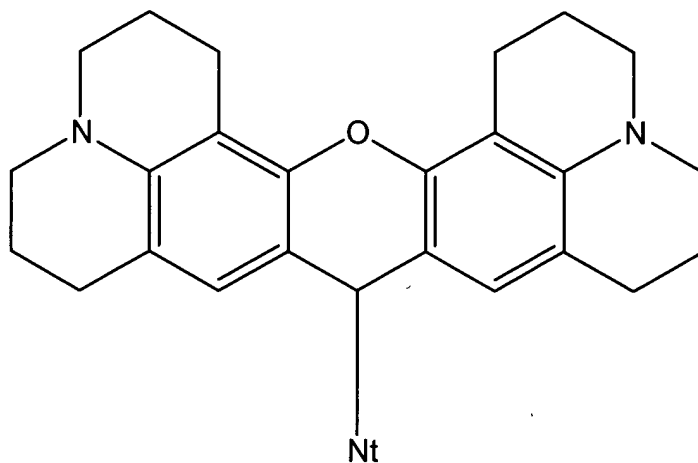
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wherein Nt comprises a nucleotide.

299. (NEW) The labeled nucleotide of claim 297, said labeled nucleotide having the structure:



wherein Nt comprises a nucleotide.

300. (NEW) The labeled nucleotide of claims 297, 298 or 299, wherein said nucleotide comprises a mono-phosphate, a di-phosphate or a tri-phosphate.

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301. (NEW) The labeled nucleotide of claims 297, 298 or 299, wherein said linker arm has a backbone comprising one or more carbon atoms.

302. (NEW) The labeled nucleotide of claims 297, 298 or 299, wherein said linker arm has a backbone comprising at least one non-carbon atom.

303. (NEW) The labeled nucleotide of claims 297, 298 or 299, wherein said linker arm comprises two or more consecutive peptide bonds.

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